

THE STROBE

THE NEWSPAPER OF FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE

Issue 8

Wednesday, October 2, 1996

12 Pages

Mail on the move

by Vanessa Manni
News Editor

At last week's Student Government Association meeting, a heated debate took place on an issue that has both administration and students up in arms.

President Riccards has decided to relocate the mailboxes, located on the second floor of the Hammond Building, in order to accommodate renovations on the bookstore. The mailboxes will be relocated to the basement of the Hammond Building in the unused Multi-Club Room that is connected by a long corridor to the Commuter Cafe and the pub.

According to President Riccards, the decision was made in the aspiration to enlarge the current bookstore into a "first-rate college bookstore." Riccards elaborated that we need to "sell the things that make sense," such as computers and computer services. "The needs of the students are changing, and we

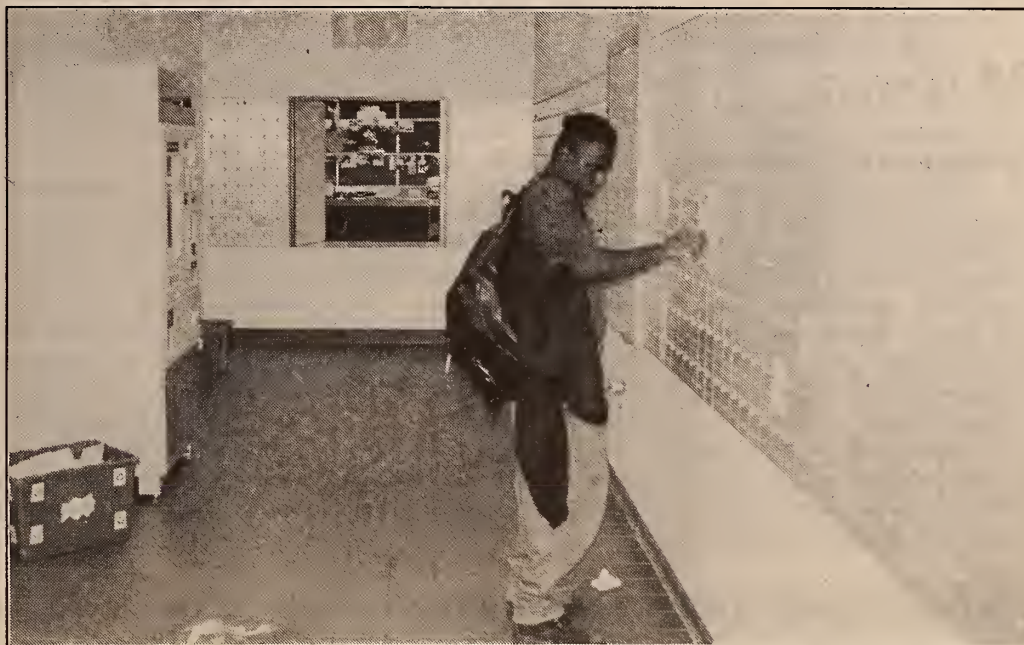
need to meet student needs."

Two million dollars has been allocated by Follett's for the sole purpose of renovating and enhancing the bookstore. The bidding is scheduled to take place in March of 1997 and renovations are planned to begin in the upcoming summer break.

In the process of deciding where the mailboxes would be relocated, many alternate sites were examined thoroughly. One of the locations considered was the Conlon building, but this idea was dismissed in consideration of commuter students.

Also, the idea was brought up that the mailboxes could be distributed in the different residence halls. That idea was also dismissed because Fitchburg State College, in the past, has found that a decentralized mail system did not work.

"These changes are going to give us more room for the text rush," said Mike Flynn, Manager of the bookstore. "People won't be so cramped." Flynn added that



Current mailboxes are located on the main floor of Hammond Building

Photo by Phil Maiewski

the change will allow for more product line and reading sections, and moreover increase the availability of textbooks.

The mail room employees were also taken into consideration in the decision. There is a limited amount of space that the clerks have to work

in, and therefore their spatial needs will be looked at when construction begins.

"Space is a difficult issue," said Riccards. "People get territorial." Students at the meeting reinforced this statement, bringing up an assortment of drawbacks and

disadvantages to the proposed relocation of the mailboxes.

Several students indicated that the handicapped students on campus would face difficulties in retrieving their mail, since the Hammond Building is not easily

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FSC home to an ivy league cover up

by Adam Starr
Contributing Writer

On the walls of Thompson Hall is a danger that few people are shrewd enough to fear.

The ivy.

This invasive plant has been growing steadily across the red brick surface of the building for years.

Intrigued by this quick

spreading plant, this reporter decided to investigate possible dangers to the college community. A leaf sample was collected and taken to Dr. Zottoli for a clinical evaluation of the

species. Surprisingly, Dr. Zottoli, a science professor at FSC and a knowledgeable field researcher, was unable to immediately identify this odd species of ivy. It was only noted that it looked vaguely familiar. With this, the question of the plant's nature was taken to an employee at the FSC grounds department. The individual spoken to, who wished not to be revealed, declined comment on the now pressing issue. "No way. If I talk to you now, when you come back, someone else will be sitting here (at his desk)."

At this point my interest was really perked. This unidentifiable ivy specimen was apparently a sensitive issue. The documentary "Little Shop of Horrors" depicted a similar type of carnivorous plant that not only fed on the flesh of men but eventually gained the ability to speak. Could this plant have similar characteristics and origins. Of what could this plant be capable!

World Book Encyclopedia warns that the energy that the vines save by using outside structures for support (i.e., Thompson Hall) is used to grow "faster, farther, and higher than neighboring plants, which allows them to stay in the light and gain even more energy." This energy can then be used to grow presumably offensive devices such as hooks, thorns and tendrils.

After a failed attempt to contact President Riccards about the issue, Mike Shanley, of Public Relations offered "We are very concerned about the problem and we are going to look into it."

When I called Governor Weld I was at first apprehensive. What if he too is involved? (in the "cover up") I spoke with his press secretary who stated that, "He has not taken any stance on that." At this time the issue of the vine remains. Who or what

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Thompson Hall soon to be covered in Ivy?

Photo by Adam Starr

FSC expands to India and Bermuda

by Vanessa Manni
News Editor

Fitchburg State College's Division of Graduate and Continuing Education has announced the establishment of Graduate level programs in India and Bermuda.

The new programs include a post graduate diploma in computer science in Hyderabad, India and a master's of education for students in Bermuda. Each shares a common thread of providing much-needed opportunity for students who want to further their education.

The initiative is a joint venture with the Ramakrishna Paramahansa Educational Society, affiliated with Osmania Uni-

versity, and the Vivekananda School of Post- Graduate Studies.

Fitchburg State College, led by Aparna Mahadev of the Fitchburg State Computer Science Department, has developed the curriculum for the year-long program, to be taught by Indian faculty. Periodic visits by Fitchburg State faculty will be scheduled to monitor and evaluate the program.

Students who complete the program will meet all the prerequisites for FSC's master's degree in Computer Science.

Dr. Michele Moran Zide, Associate Vice President of Graduate and Continuing Education

stated, "We're really pleased to be able to provide this service to the people of India," she continued, "Allowing students to complete these courses in their own country will save them a considerable amount of time and money."

The master's degree program in Bermuda is aimed at the 700 or so island teachers who face a government mandate to update their education. FSC will be working with Academic Paradigms Online, an independent agency that provides hardware, software, and training to help colleges offer on-line courses. Together the agency and FSC will develop courses to be transmit-

ted by computer to Bermuda. FSC's faculty will also travel to Bermuda to teach on-site courses.

"We are offering a much-needed service," noted Zide. "There is no graduate program available in Bermuda, so without distance learning the island's teachers would have to travel abroad to meet the new requirements. That's not a viable alternative for people with jobs, families, and limited resources."

Fitchburg State's other international efforts include exchange agreements with Russia, Haiti, St. Kitts, and Northern Ireland. In addition, the college offers summer programs throughout Europe.

Mail continued from page 1

accessible to handicapped students. Students would have to obtain the elevator key every time they wished to get their mail.

"Handicapped students are a small group of people on campus," Riccards argued. "They have complained that the present mailbox situation is not fulfilling their needs."

This point resulted in the observation that book theft might flourish if the elevators were open for students to come and go as they please, as the elevator connects the library to the basement of the Hammond Building.

One student brought up the fact that a lot of students on campus are "claustrophobic." The fact that the space in the Multi-club room is small, as well as the corridor being narrow, was disputed at length. In addition,

there is only one exit which will impact the flow of traffic to and from the mailboxes. "I don't know about this claustrophobia business," remarked Riccards in response to this student's concern.

It is not yet definite as to where the Multi-club room will be relocated, but some ideas have been proposed, such as the lower floor of Herlihy.

President Riccards is open to suggestions and encourages students to discuss these issues and to form committees.

Ann E. Coyne, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students, offered that "we want students to be happy and to have space to plan their activities, we want them to be involved."

Free peer tutoring in mathematics is available in the Mathematics Skills Center on the 3rd floor of the Hammond Building.

Hours:

**Monday-Thursday
11:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.**

6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Sunday

6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

Stalemate postpones FSC's future

by Vanessa Manni
News Editor

As the nation progresses into the next century of technological advances, Fitchburg State College is taking strides to do the same.

With the much-anticipated arrival of internet, cable, and telephone connection in residence halls, the student body of FSC will be able to effectively move along with the changing industry.

The college is stuck in the

middle of a dispute between the Attorney General and Capital Construction. This stalemate is preventing the actual construction from taking place. According to President Michael E. Riccards, protest during the bidding process caused additional hassles which assisted in the postponement of construction.

Riccards reports that 97% of the student body is in favor of these changes and states that this upgrade will, "bring down onto this campus the best instruction

in the world."

Originally, "the board" proposed that students be charged an additional fee for the utilization of this service. However, President Riccards opposed this suggestion. All students will have the connection. It will not be an option to students because a \$35 dollar fee would be charged to those individuals who choose to activate it. Instead, students will be billed on their initial bill mailed out in August. It will be called the "Capital Projects Fee."

Ivy continued from page 1

organization is protecting the vine. Could the national government be conducting some type of genetic vine experimentation. Perhaps attempting to create a giant flesh eating vine to be used as a weapon to replace the elite "Navy Seals," or could there be some

sort of... alien involvement in all this? With all these questions floating around, two things remain certain, no one should approach or confront the vine as to it's sinister plan and we should learn to trust no one until this is resolved.

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TODD REDDING

The Strobe considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. All articles must be typed or legibly hand-written and include a name and phone number in case of questions. All letters in response to a Strobe article must be submitted within two days after the article is published.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times and a contact person.

The Strobe is the student newspaper of Fitchburg State College. The reprinting of any material herein is prohibited without the express written consent of the Editor-in-Chief. All material submitted to The Strobe becomes the property of The Strobe.

POP QUIZ

- 1 You could get a behind-the-scenes look at the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum* or the TV show, *NBA Inside Stuff* by:
- (A) growing eight more inches of hair or eight inches taller.
 - (B) posing as a custodial worker.
 - (C) dialing 1 800 CALL ATT for collect calls.
- 2 You could get your hands on \$10,000 by:
- (A) moving to Texas and sucking up to an oil tycoon.
 - (B) holding one heck of a bake sale.
 - (C) dialing 1 800 CALL ATT for collect calls.

Hey, this is one quiz you might actually ace. Complete a collect call with 1 800 CALL ATT, and you could instantly be one of twenty winners of a week-long, behind-the-scenes look at the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum* or the TV show, *NBA Inside Stuff*. Plus \$10,000. Or one of thousands of other great prizes. And prizes are awarded every hour. So pull an all-nighter—on the phone with your mom.

1 800 CALL ATT®

It always costs less than 1-800-COLLECT.



Walking the Disney dream

Keith Fredericks
Staff Reporter

Walt Disney once said, "You can dream, create, design, and build the most wonderful place in the world,...but it requires people to make the dream reality."

These people could be anybody. The Walt Disney world College Program began 14 years ago and recruits cast members from around the world to represent the Disney Culture. Those who have been on vacation at the world's #1 vacation destination have undoubtedly witnessed hundreds of zany magical makers at work. The Walt Disney College Program is a way that Disney can search the globe for enthusiastic, energetic, *off the wall*, help.

Often, the mere idea of work-

ing in Disney World is enough to entice students to apply for a position. However, most college students are selective about the roads they take and the time they spend in preparing for the real world; likewise Disney is selective about the students they pick for their program.

"The WDW College program will teach you basic skills that are valuable for any career you wish to pursue. The whole experience is truly magical, like only Disney can make it!" -Student, UNC

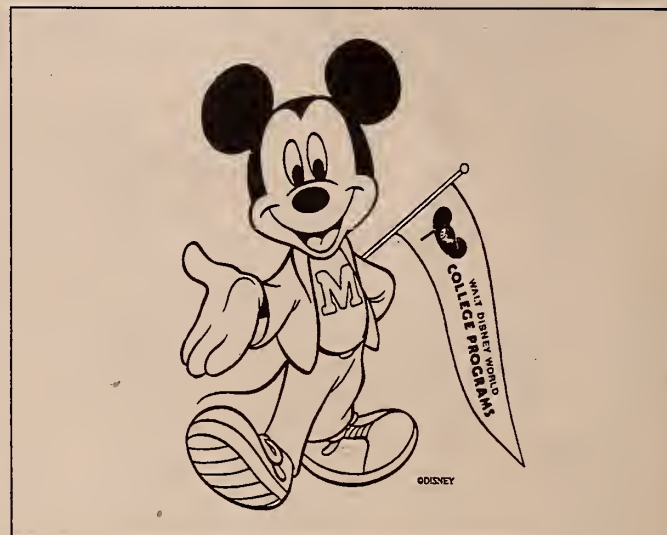
During a semester day in Disney, college students take 10 2-hour seminars. These seminars consist largely of the Disney business philosophy that exists behind the fortune 500 company. The focus of the seminars is on how students can utilize management and communication skills.

The seminars are the core of this educational experience.

Students can earn college credit for participating in this program. Credits earned are determined by each student's academic office.

In addition, students have the opportunity to meet with departmental heads in fields such as television, film, Multimedia, Management, Animation, Hospitality, Publicity, Engineering, and so on. As a cast member, students have free access to all major theme parks. Cast members get discounts on merchandise, meals, and hundreds of locations across Disney property.

"The best part of my program was the exposure to different departments through the weekly seminars. Once deciding to work for the WDW resort after gradu-



ation, I had contacts to network with for growth opportunities." - Graduate, Kent State University

Recruiters are visiting Massachusetts and Disney makes presentations at schools across the

country. Students can meet alumni of the program and interview for a position. The dates, time, and locations of these presentations are listed below.

Johnson & Whales	October 3, 7pm
Umass Dartmouth	October 9, 10am
Bridgewater State	October 10, 10am
Northeastern	October 15, 9:30am

(Any further questions call Keith Fredricks at 345-9102, or contact the WDWCP office at 1-800-722-2930.)

Reflections of a beer can

Melissa Cordeiro
Features Editor

Picture a young man sitting alone in an empty room rocking himself back and forth, arms folded in front of him covering his chest. His fear: not knowing if he is able to cope with his life again without the taste of alcohol.

This is one man's story.

"I thought it was crap. I thought I could stop," said Bill. "When I had to go to rehabilitation. was when I realized I really did have a problem."

Bill, an FSC student, explained how growing up he was hardly subjected to alcohol abuse.

"My father never drank to get drunk, just maybe two beers once and a while," explained Bill. "My mother maybe got drunk once a year. My great aunt was the person in our family who was heavy into alcohol she had a really bad problem. I'd hear things when I was little, like how my mother one time had to drive around and find her. She eventually found her at the bar she always went to, drunk."

"Eighth grade is when I really drank and smoked pot for the first time. The kids I hung out with did, so I started to because that's who I hung out with,... but they weren't the stereotypical

'punks'. They were your average middle class kids."

"In high school my friend worked at a liquor store, so it was easy for us to get alcohol. So we were able to drink a lot," explains Bill. "My grades weren't really affected by it, but by the time I became a senior I knew that if I wanted to get into college they would have to get even better than what they were."

Bill got the good grades he wanted and started his freshman year at FSC.

"My freshmen year I only drank occasionally. I commuted, so I didn't really know a lot of people here, which made it easy not to drink"

"yM sophomore year I began to meet people who lived in the dorms, rather than just commuters like I did freshmen year. This is when I started going to more parties. I also began noticing that some of my friends were failing and I was passing, although my grades weren't that good."

"My second semester I ended up having a bad relationship with a girl and this really messed me up. Also my parents were on the verge of a divorce, my brother, who was still in high school dropped out, and on top of everything my car was constantly breaking down. As my life began to get worse, I started to drink a lot," said Bill.

At this time Bill went from

just drinking on Friday and Saturday nights, to drinking every day of the week.

"I would never go to classes, and it didn't matter to me. This is when I failed my first class ever and got put on academic probation for my grades. I definitely didn't think I was an alcoholic," he said.

It's been said that alcoholism could be defined as 'fear of life'. A desire to escape from life is why Bill's drinking habit increased.

"It was the worst feeling. Every time something bad happened I would have to drink. I really took it to the extreme."

"When my semester was over I started working. This is when I started missing work. I'd drink by myself or drink with my friends. During the day whatever I was doing I'd just wish it would pass so I could start drinking. (This was everyday.) I just didn't care at that point," he said.

It was when a close friend approached that Bill gave in and got help.

"My friend told me I was lucky that I had only flunked one course and not all of them with the way I had been drinking. He told me he used to have a drinking problem, so he was familiar with it, and he wanted to get me into a rehabilitation center. I just kept saying, 'I don't know what you're talking about'."

Eventually Bill gave in to satisfy the need of his friend's peace of mind. In his mind he still did not think he had a problem.

The rehabilitation was for two weeks. Around the fifth day Bill began to realize that he had a problem.

"I never thought I was addicted until then. Before that I kept thinking, 'what the hell am I doing here?'. I figured I could stop for a couple weeks, then get out of there and start drinking again."

"Around the fifth day I was starting to go nuts. It's true what they say about getting the shakes. I was shaking and getting very irritable. I started asking for cigarettes and I had never smoked them in my life. I'd be hot and then I'd be freezing. I was at the point where someone would say "good morning" to me and I'd tell them to shut up, when I've always been a real quiet and polite guy."

"Sometimes when I was alone I'd just sit there and rock my body back and forth. I felt sick. I

couldn't eat, couldn't sleep," he said.

Bill explained this as the time he 'cracked'. He started admitting his problem and opening up. The worst part was admitting it, but once he did, everything gradually became better.

"When I got out I made the conscious decision not to drink. Whenever I would come across big problems in my life, like my parents separating or my father dying, and I would want to drink just to feel better, but I wouldn't. These were some of the big tests that I went through that showed I could do it."

"It's one of things that if it doesn't kill you it will make you stronger," is the philosophy Bill follows.

After Bill's sophomore year he was expelled from FSC because of his bad grades, but later came back. He is expected to graduate with next year's class.

High hopes for "Rights of Regression"

by Karen Druker
Correspondent

Live talent and entertainment will soon come alive when the falcon players take the stage. Their production, "Rites of Regression," was written by FSC student Andy Bayaites and will be the first time that the falcon players perform one of their shows six times in two weeks.

Bayaites, a senior English Literature major, has written a couple of movies that were produced on local cable and broadcast in Fitchburg and Billerica. He has also acted in three of the

Falcon Player's plays, taking the lead in two of them, and co-starring in the other.

"I'm very excited about this play. I think a lot of people will be able to relate," said Bayaites. "It's about liberal Arts majors who are terrified of graduation. So they choose to live in the woods in a futile society of kings and queens. There are seven characters including a king and court gester."

Gerard Marzilli plays King Jonah, the indecisive leader of the liberal Arts majors. King Johah is drawn to Rose, who represents maturity to him, but he is

also drawn to his best friend, Sir John, who wishes Jonah to remain young.

Randy Meech plays King Mike. His character rivals King Jonah. As the chief antagonist, King Mike is the villain who pursues Rose because Jonah cares for her. Meech is also co-chairperson of the Falcon Players.

Jessica Powers plays Lady Simone. Extremely jealous of Rose, Lady Simone has a crush on King Jonah, but he does not notice her.

Jamie Lee plays Sir John, the court jester. His character represents irresponsibility and drunk-

enness. Sir John calls back to childhood and wants Jonah to remain young.

Jen Campbell plays Rose, a hiker who stumbles upon the students in the woods. She is a psychology major who is drawn to people with problems. She changes Jonah's perspective and urges him to grow up. She has a neurotic personality.

Guy D'Annolfo plays Sir Abe. His character is symbolic of the biblical, Abraham, and his purpose is to serve Jonah.

Kate Asmus plays Lady Sand, a character who is naive and innocent. She cannot make a ra-

tional decision without the crutch of mystic guidance.

Sarah 'Summer' Paul, who directed 'What the Butler Saw', is the stage manager for 'Rites of Regression'. She, sharing the opinion of many, is excited about the play.

"It is definitely an intelligent play and well written," she said.

Meech added that, "This is the most aggressive production FSC will ever see".

The dates for this performance will be November 14-16, 21-23, in Percival Auditorium.

Life at 88 Boulder Street

Kristin Moriarty
Correspondent

Every Thursday evening (from 7:30-9:00) there are meetings of the Alliance for the mentally ill. This is where people can go for support and where they can discover that they are not alone in this world. The meeting is similar to alcoholics anonymous.

At 88 Boulder Street families of people with mental illnesses are given a chance to tell their stories. They are frustrated with the system. These people have diseases, just like people with

cancer and heart diseases, but are treated in such a different way.

Family members are often put in jail for their sickness as opposed to receiving care from a hospital. If they are found in the streets behaving in a bizarre way they are usually placed under arrest.

Here the families share the frustration they feel when they have to put a restraining order on their son or daughter. They have to try to separate the person from the disease. They help each other to find ways to cope.

The meetings are a circle of support and hope. If anyone has a family member with a mental illness they are more than welcome to attend the meetings. For more information on the Alliance for the mentally ill you can contact the president, Nelson Goguen at 386-5862 or the Vice president, Diana Camilla at 827-9314.

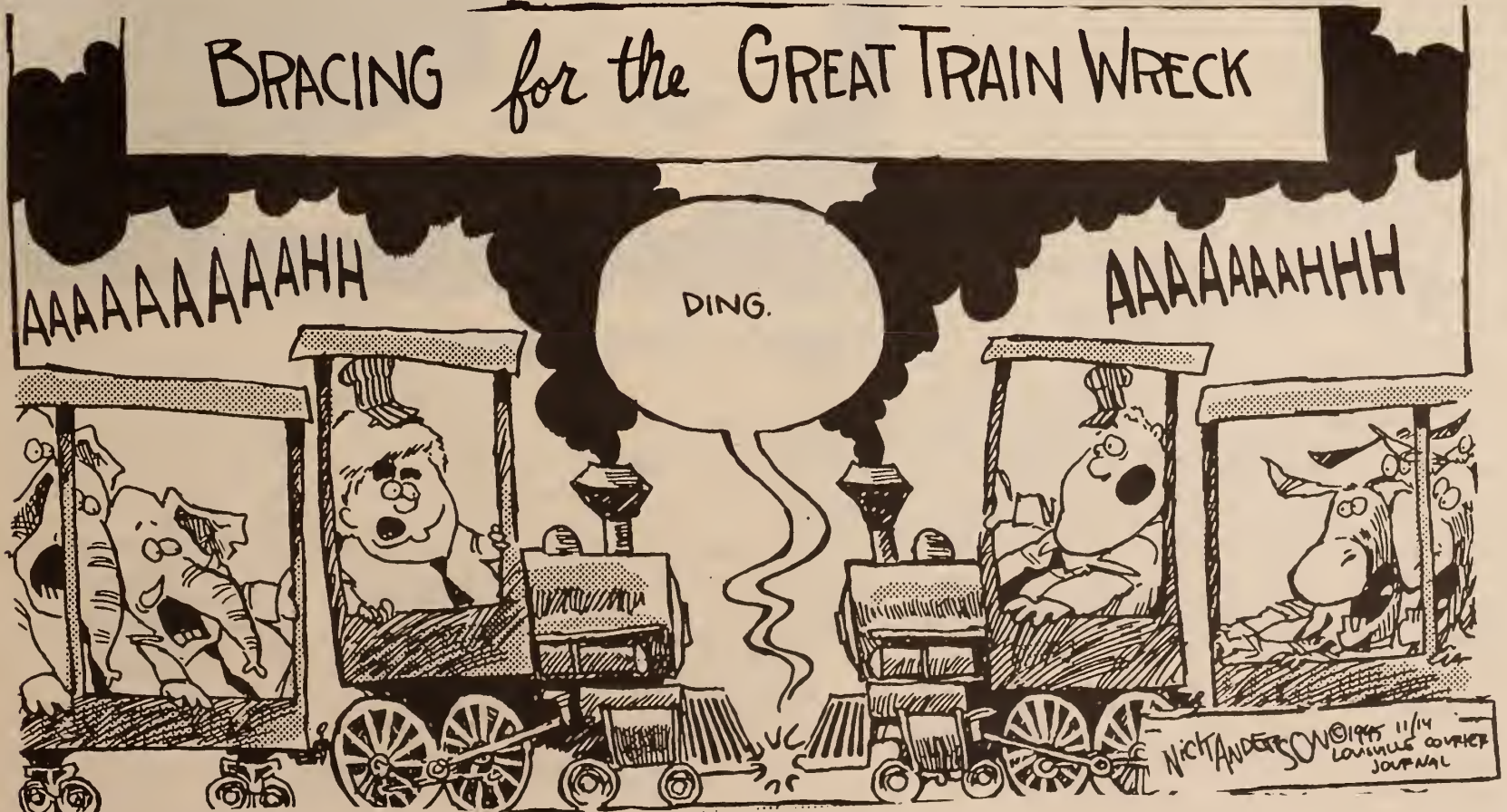
There are many events, such as a candlelight vigil, coming up in the near future. For all that are interested there is a list of the events on the Junior Nursing board in Thompson Hall.

Wanted

Afternoon Daycare / Babysitting in our home
Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday
3:00 to 6:30 pm

We are looking for an energetic person who loves children to care for our two boys, 4 1/2 and 1 1/2 years of age.

Call Kris or Sean at
537-237



Common sense, not condom sense

by Mark Wilson
Correspondent

I believe I will never get AIDS. I also do not worry about other sexually transmitted diseases, or about getting someone pregnant. I will not wear a condom either.

Four percent of condoms break and two percent leak. The latex rubber has intrinsic voids of 5 microns and the AIDS virus is only 0.1 microns, according to Rubber Chemistry and Technology editor C.M. Rolands.

I am not trusting my body and health to a piece of rubber. A woman can only get pregnant a few times a month, but AIDS and other STD's can happen 365 days

a year.

I believe in safe sex. I also believe in postponed sex. For now, I practice no sex, abstinence, until marriage. This is the only sure way to combat unwanted pregnancies and to avoid STD's. But if you decide not to wait, use common sense not condom sense.

Think about what happens if you engage in reckless desires... death, pain, unwanted pregnancies, etc. It is good to know that sex is only a desire, albeit a strong desire, and not a need. You will die if you do not get food, water, shelter, and especially love. You will not die if you do not have sexual intercourse.

If bodily harm does not persuade you to abstain, how about

emotional damage? Condom ads never tell you how to protect yourself from that. With abstinence, you get guarantees. There will be no flashbacks of other lovers in bed when you are married, nor any emotional guilt from a failed sexual relationship. There will also never be any custody messes.

Sex is strong and binding emotionally. It is not something to play with. There are too many single parents taking care of children by themselves because 1 out of 2 people decided they were ready for a night of fun, but not a commitment.

Most people seem to want to get married, but only when they are ready.

Marriage is supposed to be a life-long commitment where two people are joined together as one. The sexual union is the unifying force which cements marriage.

If you really love someone, get a ring first, then marry, then have sex. Otherwise, what is so special about marriage? What is so special about sex? Why do you want to act like you are married by living and/or sleeping with your boyfriend or girlfriend, yet not commit to a real marriage?

Editor's Note: this is part one of a two-part editorial by Mark Wilson, an FSC senior. The conclusion will appear in next week's Strobe.

Help Wanted

Men/Women earn \$480 weekly assembling circuit boards/electronic components at home.

Experience unnecessary, will train. Immediate openings in your local area.

Call 1-520-680-7891
EXT: C200

Daily comedy

by Joel Hurley
Copy Editor

I would like to pat the students of FSC on the back for finally uniting together for one common cause. Not every generation lives up to society's labels, but if FSC students are representative of our generation, we can peel one particular label off and wear it high on our chest.

I am not touting the term "Generation X." I am touting the less common and more accurate adjective "apathetic." In case you haven't heard, we are quickly becoming better known as the Apathetic Generation.

We are the generation that even MTV can not motivate. They want us to "Rock the Vote" or "Choose-or-Lose" when FSC students can't even get together on issues that we actually know and care about.

Take DAKA for example. Anyone who eats at DAKA every day has at least one issue or complaint which they would like heard. The problem is that no one wants to be the one who has to do a little work to get that issue addressed. I would bet that few students realize that DAKA has an open meeting every Wednes-

day for just these kinds of issues.

Such a meeting is of no interest here at FSC. We would rather eat fatty junk food that is making us sick than actually take fifteen minutes out of our social lives to take some action.

If every student got involved in just one committee, club, or activity here on campus, each of these organizations would be strong enough to accomplish almost any goal or activity it attempted. No one could shut us out or ignore us.

Join WXPL and play the music you want to hear. Join the

"Here! Have a pat on the back!"

Programs Committee and bring the events you want to FSC. Stop by the Student Government Association and get your issues addressed. We are all busy at times, but we can make a difference starting here on campus.

Like it or not, we are members of the Apathetic Generation. Neither this article, nor MTV will make much difference because apathy is in and action is out. But isn't rebelling against social labels the one true trait that binds Generation X?



Jim's Journal



A bitter battle



Rick
Rodricks
A&E Editor

It was many generations ago, says the old and popular legend, that wise King Solomon adjudicated a particular case involving two women fighting for custody of a baby. Lacking credible witnesses to back her claim, each woman could only insist and beg to the king for custody of the child.

Each complainant pleaded that she was the true mother of the baby, and that the claims of the other woman were unfounded lies. Neither would agree to give up the baby because neither was willing to let the other have it.

So, King Solomon, for lack of evidence to judge who was the true mother, devised a clever ruling. He ruled that the baby should be chopped in half and divided between the two mothers.

One woman agreed, "Sounds fair to me."

The other objected, "No! Spare my baby! I would rather see it in the hands of my enemy than have it destroyed."

So King Solomon gave the child to the second woman, ruling that she must be the true mother. A loving person after all, would abandon her claims of ownership rather than see that which she loves destroyed.

Which brings us to modern Israel. In the land where King Solomon once ruled with wise concern, we have a very similar case involving two mothers and a baby. One "mother" is the nation of Israel, the other is Palestine. The baby is the land which both claim belongs to them.

Both nations insist that they are the true owners of the land and that the others do not belong there. So, what's the solution?

It seems simple to me. We take the wisdom of ancient King Solomon and apply it to the crisis in the modern Middle East. If we look at the actions of Palestine and Israel, we see two claimants to the land who behave like the first mother.

It looks like both Israel and Palestine are saying "sounds fair to me!" when it comes down to chopping up the land to settle the dispute. Moreover, both nations are ready to fight to the death to see this brutal destruction occur.

So what would King Solomon say? Well, since he was a Hebrew he would probably side with his home team and say the land belongs to Israel. But what should we say? We, the rest of the world, should say that if neither claimant is willing to let her enemy live on the land, than both claimants have no right to own the land.

Like the first woman in the story above, neither Israel nor Palestine is the true mother of the land over which they fight. Perhaps a third party, like the United States, could act as reagent for the long dead King Solomon and enforce some of his wisdom.

We could step in, take the land away from the unfit mothers and maybe pave it over and turn it into a theme park. That way, if you want to visit the Wailing Wall you'll have to park in the Goofy and Donald Lots, buy a green ticket and wait in line for the next monorail car to take you there. Mosques around the world will have their mihrabs turned to face the Enchanted Palace.

Or, one of the two nations must make their peace with God, accept that which they can not change, and give the land to their enemy. After all, if they really loved the land, they would rather give it up than destroy it.

So, as the crisis in the Middle East turns to war one more time and our country turns towards election-year, every American who wants to see a solution to this major international crisis should think about the wisdom of Solomon.

We can help put an end to this 3000+ year old dispute, but we need to insist that our political leaders take a hard stance with both of the aggressors. Let's stop making their leaders shake hands in front of the White House while we give them each tens of millions of dollars every year to continue building their militaries. Let's stop tolerating the destruction of any part of this world which belongs to every one of us.

Thumbs up to texts

by Vanessa Manni
News Editor

According to the just-released 1996 Faculty/Student Teaching Materials Survey fielded by the Association of American Publishers, there appears to be an increase in the value of textbooks in academic work.

This study of 845 faculty and 1,026 students in 12 introductory (freshman and sophomore) courses at randomly-selected two- and four-year colleges nationwide reveal further positive trends with regard to the use of textbooks.

According to the survey, 55% of faculty and 49% of students regard textbooks as "very important in helping students: (1) retain more information, (2) study more efficiently, (3) clarify course concepts, and (4) provide a reference after completing a course.

In a similar survey conducted in 1994 none of these statements elicited a majority of students or faculty who "strongly agreed." These recent results indicate a growing positive attitude toward textbooks.

In response to the question, "What percent of exam questions could be answered only by reading the textbook," faculty

answered 63%, and students answered 67%. In 1994, the responses were only 47% and 27%, respectively. This indicates an increase over the last two years in the perceived value of textbooks in preparing for tests.

This survey comes at a time when colleges report an increasing focus on teaching and learning. At least one survey finding may have validated the trend.

The number of faculty who recommend a study guide for the main text has increased from 38% in 1994 to 67% in 1996.

"Faculty spend a significant amount of time each year reviewing teaching materials sent to them by publishers and finally selecting a textbook for their courses" noted Ed Stanford, President of the College Division of St. Martin's Press and Chairman of the AAP's Higher Education Division. "In light of the improvement in perception revealed by the recent survey, if professors spent a few minutes not only at the beginning of each semester, but also at key points in the academic year, explaining why they chose the text and how it will be used, this would further raise the students' comfort level

in their classrooms and enhance student success in learning."

While elementary and high school students sometimes, tragically, lack textbooks altogether, the results of the recent survey also indicate a troubling, related problem in higher education: students often lack understanding of how to use the text materials that are universally available to improve learning.

To conclude, the study also found that while 75% of faculty feel that using textbooks will improve student grades, only 51% of students share that view.

Developed by the AAP's Higher Education Division, the 1996 survey was carried out by O'Donnell & Associates of Stamford, Connecticut. The AAP is the principal trade association of the U.S. book publishing industry whose members publish hardcover and paperback books in every field, along with journals, classroom materials, software, and electronic products.

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Sequels, sequels everywhere...

by Keith Fredericks
Strobe Reporter

This is the 5th edition of my "Sequels" series as a Strobe Staff Reporter. Every semester I wrestle up all the Hollywood gossip about movies and present it here.

Lots of fun information accumulated over the summer. Here it is, enjoy!

The original masterpiece of 1977 will be released on its 20th anniversary. *Star Wars* is expected to draw fans to sold out theaters on President's Day of next year. It is likely that the rest of the trilogy will follow in successive months.

George Lucas spent last year hammering out the stories for *The Clone Wars*, the next trilogy in the *Star Wars* saga. Supposedly, the first of three prequels will be released in 1999. Expect the following two prequels every two years or so.

Speaking of anticipated trilogies...

you will eventually have the opportunity to be the proud owner of *The Brady Trilogy*. Groovy! Too many people went and saw the first two movies and so we are all doomed for *Another Brady Sequel*.

Jim "the rubber face" Carrey has been the participant of many poor, yet popular, movies as of late. Both *Ace Ventura 2*, and *The Cable Guy* pulled home major bucks while receiving negative reviews by critics and fans. Is Carrey's career going down hill? His bank would argue against that, but for those who wonder what is in store for the highest paid actor in the world... Jim Carrey will have another ACE up his sleeve, and MASK on his face.

The Borg will give the Enterprise E and captain Picard enough trouble this fall to warrant your attendance. *Star Trek: First Contact* won't have Captain Kirk. It will have those annoying and malicious cybernetic weirdoes,



Disney's Mighty Ducks take the ice again with more sequels coming soon

the Borg! Look for some well known characters to be assimilated, the "Borg Queen" to be revealed, and even more time travel.

Alicia Silverstone had to go on a diet, Val Kilmer had to give up his nipples to E.R. heartthrob George Clooney, Arnold Schwarzenegger will have to freeze his head, and Chris

O'Donnell will have to act without Drew Barrymore. All the actors had to make huge sacrifices for *Batman and Robin*, especially O'Donnell. Warner Brothers' anticipated blockbuster is scheduled for the summer of 1997.

Christopher Reeves will probably never fly again and that's why a *Superman* sequel has been on the back burner for a while.

The Man of Steel will return soon, and the plot will excite DC comics enthusiasts. Let's just say that *The Death of Superman* is an extremely shocking title. For those who are unfamiliar with the comic book story, let's just say that there will be five supermen flying the skies of Metropolis in

Continued on next page

Albums to help you wallow in the blues

Music Reviews
by Fred Yackowski
Correspondent

"An Ass Pocket of Whiskey," R.L. Burnside
now available on CD
***1/2

This rough and tumble, down and dirty, fuzz guitar blues was recorded in a one day session. It backs R.L. Burnside with The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion.

The opening track "Goin' Down South" blasts out of the stereo sounding like what would happen if John Lee Hooker had fronted a slow paced Sex Pistols. "Boogie Chillen" rewards listeners with one of Jon Spencer's finest vocal performances. Maybe it is R.L.'s pocket whiskey kicking in.

Kicking in is exactly what Russell Simins's drums are doing. Simins comfortably steers all four blaring guitarists with precision and power, using overlapping sonic textures usually not found in blues albums. Nevertheless, the Blues Explosion's

drums and guitars aren't quite enough to compensate for several poorly arranged tracks.

Unfortunately, Matthew Johnson's production puts a slight damper on the overall quality, especially with vocals on the verge of distortion. Hopefully the next time Burnside and the boys will record for two full days and weed out some of the more sobering material.

"Lightnin' Hopkins," Lightnin' Hopkins
re-released on CD

In 1959, record producer Sam Charters journeyed to Houston in hopes of finding the retired Sam Hopkins. The search ended in a run-down apartment where the recording of one of the finest blues albums of all time was about to take place.

This album's superb sound quality is astounding despite Charter having to maneuver the only microphone between Hopkins's guitar and voice to adjust the recording levels.

This album is Hopkins at his absolute leanest. "Come Go Home with Me" is his guitar blazing best.. The way Lightnin' Hopkins switches between rhythm strumming and breathtaking guitar solos makes it clear as to how he earned his apt nickname.

Hopkins also easily shifts his vocal style from swaggering spoken passages to soaring emotional bursts of mojo wisdom. So whether you are a fan of blues, folk, rockabilly, or rock & roll, this album is a valuable addition to any collection.

"Devotional and Love Songs," Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan
now available on CD
****1/2

This 1988 album features Pakistani superstar Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. Yes, America, there is more music in the world than Seattle and South Central Los Angeles. Nusrat's ability to vocally manipulate melodies by turning them inside out and back draws many comparisons to

yesteryear's jazz singers.

The songs themselves are considered 'pop' by eastern standards. They hover around the five minute barrier and conform to western song forms and structures. Overall, the acoustic guitars and percussion give "Devotional and Love Songs" an American feel that allows it to fit into any acoustic album collection.

All ten songs are sung in Nusrat's native tongues, Urdu and Punjabi. Interestingly, although most of the songs honor the Muslim religion, "Sanson Ki Mala A Pey" attempts an appeal to Indian culture.

Nusrat holds appeal for American audiences too. Volumes of his works have begun to flood into the United States. He is currently touring North America behind three new albums released this year, "Revelation," Megastar," and a collaboration with Michael Brook "Night Song." He has also collaborated with Eddie Vedder on the soundtrack to *Dead Man Walking*.

Rating System

The Strobe uses a five-star system for its A&E reviews

- ***** a masterpiece, one for nearly everyone
- **** a solid work, a worthy choice
- *** worth the price, but not the best
- ** not worth it
- * ouch!

Madame Jayna returns

by Jayna McGurik
Avatar of Mystical Wisdom

Editor's note: Although Madame Jayna's predictions are often eerily accurate, please do not take them too seriously. We at the Strobe will not be held responsible for any actions you take as a result of your horoscope.

ARIES

March 21 - April 19

Your bright, sunny disposition is going to get you nowhere. Be ruthless and get the job done! It will be worth the recognition and maybe you will learn a thing or two.

TAURUS

April 20 - May 20

That person you just met, a potential mate, should be forgotten... Fast! They will bring you trouble. Good things come to those who wait, so wait, and wait...

GEMINI

May 21 - June 21

You have been talking in your sleep and your roommate/neighbor has gotten an earful. Be careful. Your nocturnal chatting could cause trouble.

CANCER

June 22 - July 22

Your significant other gets closer! Accept them with open arms and enjoy it. Your actions could bring you closer together or break an important bond.

LEO

July 23 - August 22

You would be wise to take caution. Carelessness could lead to an injury or unemployment. Be careful or deal with the results!

VIRGO

August 23 - September 22

Your wardrobe is as cheezy as the 80's. If you have no money, get a loan and go shopping! An update never hurt anyone.

LIBRA

September 23 - October 23

You are forced to face bias against you. If you keep your head you will be the winner and your opposition will look foolish.

SCORPIO

October 24 - November 21

Someone is looking for you. Your recent actions determine whether it is for good or bad reasons. They will catch up to you, be prepared.

SAGGITARIUS

November 22 - December 21

Life holds changes! Eat them up or choke on them. A wonderful surprise waits around the corner for you- go get it!

CAPRICORN

December 22 - January 19

Keep doing your thing! It will work out great for you and you will get recognized for your shining work. Be careful though, too much celebrating on the weekend could cause problems.

AQUARIUS

January 20 - February 18

Your job may be bad. If you hate it, brown-nose enough and impress your way into a promotion!

PISCES

February 19 - March 20

You are a magnet. People are drawn to you, be accessible but not too easy. Overfriendliness could soon lead to an unwelcome friend- who won't go away!

Sequels cont. from page 8

1998.

Most people don't know that Mickey Mouse owns the majority of the film market. Disney is smart in marketing their films, and even smarter in marketing their straight to video movies. This past summer *Aladdin 3* cleaned up. It actually grossed more money than the summer blockbuster *ID4* did in its first five days. This figure justifies the other straight to video DISNEY movie releases.

The King, has returned. If *The Lion King* sequel follows Aladdin's lead, then this movie will be called "Return of Scar."

If you saw *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* you may have noticed a cameo appearance by Bell. If you missed her, you can go see the movie again or you can wait for the upcoming *Beauty and the Beast* Christmas story. Bah-humbug.

You'd think that Doctor Wayne Zellinski would unplug that damn shrinking machine. Well, his incompetence will result in *Honey We Shrunk Ourselves*.

Mr. Potato Head may find Mrs. Potato head in *Toy Story 2*.

You would think that no Disney movie would have "Tramp" in the title, but there are always exceptions -*Lady and the Tramp 2* is in the works.

Mortal Kombat! There will be a movie following the release of the *Mortal Kombat IV* arcade game.

Speaking of *ID42*...who would be naive enough not to realize that there was going to be a sequel. The script is not on paper yet, but expect a sequel in the year 2000.

Keanu Reeves decided that his band is more important than a couple million dollars. Sandra Bullock will be accompanied by a less charismatic partner in *Speed 2*.

What is it with *Aliens* invading earth these days? Ripley (Sigourney Weaver) and her android partner (Winona Ryder) will try to save the world next summer in *Alien: Resurrection*.

What happens when you team together creative writer Michael Crichton and film genius Steven Spielberg? Well with the aid of incredible special FX, you would have *Jurassic Park II: The Lost World*, coming the summer of 1997.

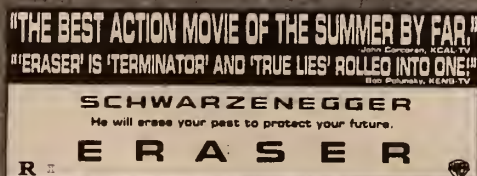
Well that's it.

Actually, that's not true. You just can't handle the truth! There will always be stupid sequels to unsuccessful movies. I'll be back next semester with information about the new *Naked Gun*, *Fugitive*, and *Indiana Jones* movies.

Don't Forget

VALID ONLY ON

October 6th & 8th at 6:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.



Eraser will be shown this Sunday and next Tuesday. Thanks to the Programs Committee, this film is free! Shows are 6:30 and 9:30 in the Ellis White Lecture Hall.

Eraser stars Arnold Schwarzenegger as yet another action hero who fills the screen with a big presence and punishing one-liners.

Strobe review: ***1/2

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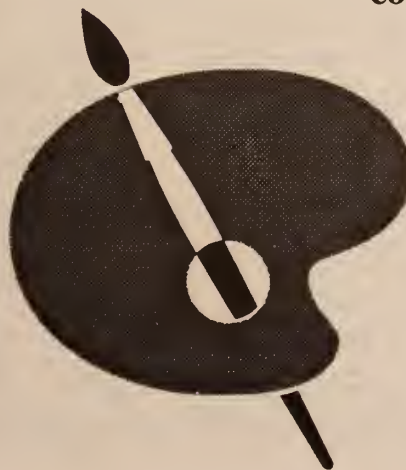
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Weekly wrap-up

Karen Irving's tremendous play in net has led Fitchburg State to a 3-2 record early on this season. Last week Irving, a 1995 All-MASCAC Second Team selection, posted her third shutout of the year, a 1-0 win over Regis College. Irving turned aside four Regis shots in the victory. Earlier this year Irving turned aside eight Emerson shots for a 1-0 victory and lost a tough 2-1 decision against Nichols College, although she did turn back twelve shots. Irving now has an FSC record of nine career shutouts.

RECENT RESULTS

The Football team lost 24-14 to the Westfield State Owls Friday night, starting the season 0-3. Their next game is Oct 5 at home against Bridgewater St.

The Women's Soccer team stands at 3-2 with a 1-0 win against Regis College. Maureen McKenna scored the winning point and Karen Irving secured her third shutout of the season.

The Women's Cross Country team defeated Simmons College 27-29 at Coggs Hall Park on Friday. Laurie Pouliot, Tonia Pickett, and Co-captain Susan Whitnell finished 2-3-4 respectively for the Ladyfalcons.

The Field Hockey team defeated Western New England College in overtime 2-1. Sarah Clarke scored the game winner five minutes into overtime.

The Men's Soccer team went 2-4 with a tough loss against Western New England College.

Intramurals:

Sign Up Now!!!

Flag Football

Bowling

Darts

Ping Pong

Billards

Rosters Due: Oct. 18

Upcoming street hockey schedule

Thursday Oct 3 - 4:30 Fire Engines vs. CBC
5:30 Champs vs. My Johns

Monday Oct 7 - 4:30 My Johns vs. Townies
5:30 Ostriches vs. Fire Engines

Tuesday Oct 8 - 4:30 Townies vs. Ostriches
5:30 CBC vs. My Johns

Wednesday Oct 9 and 10 - Playoffs

Intramural Corner



Intramural Softball

photo by Phil Maiewski

by Brian Bicknall
Intramural Director

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Intramural Women's hoop teams took the court for the first time and provided some excellent highlights. Among those who played were returning veterans Amy Harrington, Dianne Horwath, and Stacey Shanks. New faces to look for are Sara Harding, Laura Znoj, Jenn Mullins, and Jessica Peer. The fast break dunks and three-pointers impressed all, but it was the defense that kept everyone awake. Among the high scorers for last week were Erika Alston and Bridgette Giles.

Beth McNamara was named MVP by the intramural supervisors in the first week of play. You can catch the women's intramural basketball games Mon-Thurs at 7:30 at the Parkinson Gymnasium.

SOFTBALL

Bronx Bomber right fielder Aaron Bigmore was a standout on the field and at the plate last Tuesday, getting on base three times and scoring three runs. On the mound Amy Buckley was brilliant throwing a complete game three-hitter, striking out four. Mark "Tozi" was a vacuum at second base helping the Bronx Bombers to a convincing 7-2 victory over the team SD & SP.

In action on Thursday CBC defeated SD & SP 11-4 and the Dodgers beat the Bronx Bombers in extra innings. Highlights were J. Murtagh and Aaron Bigmore's three hits apiece and homeruns by Ian M. and R. Escoholes.

STREET HOCKEY

On Thursday the Fall street hockey league got underway. The opening game saw the Champs dominating the undermanned Townies. The Champs, led by Thomas Gordon, Damon Moore, Michael McCarthy, and Joseph Centrella proved too much for the Townies scoring ten goals while giving up only three.

The second game saw the Ostriches defeat CBC. CBC held in for awhile, but in the end the talent of the Ostriches proved to be the difference. Led by captain, Mike Prout and Co-captain Eric Stevenson the Ostriches may be the only team to take the wind out of the Champs' sails.

INTRAMURAL ATHLETE OF THE WEEK - Sarah Craft from "The Train"

INTRAMURAL GREEK OF THE WEEK - Ken McCrae of Sig Tau

A day at Fenway New AD fills some big shoes

by Michael J. Poirier
Sports Editor

The Red Sox season officially ended Sunday with Reggie Jefferson driving in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning to secure a 6-5 victory against the New York Yankees. It was only fitting that my first trip to Fenway Park would be the last game of the season.

I hadn't been to Fenway in over a year, but as I walked up the ramp I could feel the excitement of the upcoming game and the impending sadness of another season gone by. The cloudy day did not diminish my excitement as I found my seat and watched the Yankees take batting practice, hitting pitch after pitch into the netting above the Green Monster. I had been away too long and was sorry I hadn't come sooner in the year.

What was it that kept me away? Maybe it was the horrendous start or maybe it was the drive into Boston I never looked forward to. I would've come in August when they were battling for the Wild Card, but then some yahoos would've accused me of being a fair weather fan. Maybe they would've been right.

It just didn't seem fair, as I listened to the National Anthem, that this would be the first and last game I would see this year. Maybe they could extend the season one more game and give me a chance to come back and watch Mo Vaughn launch another ball into the bullpen or Roger Clemens strike out another batter in a Red Sox uniform.

The game moved on with each team trading the lead, the Yankees scoring first and the Sox coming back with four runs of their own over the next three innings. The

following three innings saw the Yankees tie the score at five a piece. I was secretly hoping that the game would go into extra innings so that I could stay just a little longer, somehow making up for all the time I had spent away.

Earlier in the game I noticed that the person sitting next to me was Boston Symphony Orchestra conductor Sey Ozau. He was signing autographs and talking about how Mo Vaughn was his favorite player. It was strange, sitting there talking baseball with someone who could forget more about music in a minute than I could remember in a lifetime.

The seventh inning stretch came and went and I began to think about what it's going to be like when Fenway Park is gone. Jon Wheeler, a FSC freshman, noted that when he graduates in the year 2000, Fenway might be a parking lot. "Can you believe Fenway might be gone in five years," Wheeler said. "I'll be sorry to see it go."

In the eighth inning my conductor companion left probably to write another sonata and I was left to cheer on Mo. The Yankees came away empty in the top of the ninth and I could feel that the baseball gods would not extend my time here. Centerfielder Darren Bragg singled, was sacrificed by Jeff Frye, and after a single by Will Cordero, was brought home by Jefferson's single, putting an end to the game, the season, and my time at the Fens.

As I left my seat and made my way out I glanced back at the Green Monster and wondered when I would be back. Next season may not be soon enough for me, but I guess for now it'll have to be.

by Kristin Kinville
Contributing Writer

A new era in athletics was born at FSC as Sue E. Lauder started her new position as Athletic Director of FSC in August. The job had previously been held by Elizabeth Kruczek, or "Mrs. K", who held the position since 1978.

Ms. Lauder comes from a long history of involvement in intercollegiate athletics and has an immense passion for sports. Lauder was Assistant Athletic Director and Head coach for the women's basketball team at Assumption College for eight years. She also served as the Director of women's athletics at Hartwick College in New York.

When it comes to filling the shoes of "Mrs. K" and her goals for the future, Lauder insists that involvement in sports is the key. "I have a lot to live up to and I would like to see more people involved with things that come under the athletic umbrella," said Lauder. "My main goal is to see more students participating in intercollegiate, intramural, and recreational activities."

Lauder touched on the importance of the addition of the new athletic facility "The addition of the new facility will



help improve everything from recruiting to having more space to work with," Lauder said. "I'm asking for everything we can get because later on we don't want to put up a facility and later say we should have put in this or that."

A sense of being part of the FSC family was something else that thoroughly impressed Lauder. "I was surprised at my reception. So many people came to the office to welcome me,"

Lauder said. "It touched me that people would take the time to do that."

When discussing athletics Lauder emphasized why she enjoys being at FSC. "I like the philosophy of Division III, getting participation from as many people as possible," Lauder said. "The student athletes are here because they love the game and they want to play. It's pure."

Born to run Cross country coach Kim Walsh

by Karen Druker
Correspondent

On your mark, get ready, set, go! The gun has fired, the race has begun, and as always FSC assistant cross country coach, Kim Walsh, cheers loudly for her runners. Walsh, a cross country veteran and '96 FSC graduate, has been working alongside head coach Jim Jellison this season and has provided solid instruction. "She's a great kid and an inspiration to the runners," Jellison said. "They have a lot of respect for her."

In addition to her role as assistant coach, she's also a teacher in the Leominster public

school system, works part-time, and is raising her five-year-old daughter, Alexis. Walsh says that she would like to see Alexis become an athlete like her someday but notes, "It's up to her which sport she would like to do."

Walsh, who is currently training for a marathon, is taking advantage of Fitchburg's hilly terrain. She is a lifelong resident of the city and has been running since her freshman year at Fitchburg High School. Throughout her years at Fitchburg High she captured several awards including the MVP and the coach's award. Walsh's early success carried her into her college years here at

FSC.

Walsh became the MASCAC cross country champion in 1995 and led all runners in both indoor and outdoor track. As a coach, Walsh has high hopes for this year's squad. "We have a young team with a lot of potential," Walsh said. "There's such a rich tradition of excellence here at FSC that couldn't be found anywhere else."

The addition of the new athletic director, Sue Lauder, has impressed Walsh greatly. Walsh feels that Lauder will make many changes that will improve FSC athletics and she looks forward to seeing the new athletic center.

Upcoming Intramural Softball Schedule

Wed Oct 2 - 4:30 Dodgers vs. Ball Bangers
5:30 Gamblers vs. SD & SP
Thur Oct 3 - 4:30 Sig Tau vs. The Sailors
5:30 Bronx Bomber vs. Ball Bangers
Mon Oct 7 - 4:30 Sig Tau vs. SD & SP
5:30 Fitchburg's Finest vs. CBC
Tues Oct 8 - 4:30 Dodgers vs. Sig Tau
5:30 The Sailors vs. Bronx Bombers
Wed Oct 9 - 4:30 Fitchburg's Finest vs. Bronx Bombers
5:30 The Sailors vs. CBC